

Claims

- 1 1. A method for determining a cost for using a standby resource in a computer system,
2 wherein the standby resource is activated in response to a resource requirement, the method
3 comprising:
4 automatically determining a cause of the resource requirement; and
5 determining a cost for using the standby resource according to the determined cause.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising billing a user according to the
2 determined cost.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cause of the resource requirement
2 further includes correlating a code indicative of the cause to a charge indicator used to
3 determine the cost.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cost for using the standby resource
2 further includes automatically determining the cost.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cause of the resource requirement
2 further includes retrieving a code associated with the cause from an electronic log.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein determining the cost for using the standby resource
2 further includes correlating the code to a billing rate.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein determining the cost for using the standby resource
2 further includes computing a bill using the billing rate and a time measurement.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cost for using the standby resource
2 further includes recording at least one of a time the standby resource was activated and a
3 subsequent time that the standby resource was inactivated.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cause of the resource requirement
2 further includes detecting a performance problem.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cause of the resource requirement
2 further includes retrieving encoded adjustment data from a memory in communication with
3 the computer.

1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cause of the resource requirement
2 further includes recording a code relating to the cause in an electronic log.

1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cost for using the standby resource
2 further includes determining a reduced rate cost.

1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cause of the resource requirement
2 further includes retrieving at least one of a code and adjustment data from a remote
3 memory.

1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the cause of the resource requirement
2 further includes determining an occurrence of a failure.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein determining the occurrence of the failure further
2 includes determining the occurrence from a group consisting of: a disk drive failure, a bug,
3 a power loss, an indication of performance, an ineffective program fix, a user related error,
4 a hardware related error and a software related error.

- 1 16. A method of rendering an invoice for usage of a standby resource by a customer,
- 2 comprising adjusting a cost associated with usage of a standby resource based upon a
- 3 reason for activating the standby resource.

- 1 17. A method for rendering an invoice for providing use of a standby resource in a
- 2 computer system, wherein the standby resource is activated in response to a resource
- 3 requirement, the method comprising:
- 4 automatically determining a cause of the resource requirement;
- 5 determining a cost for using the standby resource according to the cause; and
- 6 creating the invoice according to the cost.

- 1 18. An apparatus comprising:
2 a computer configured to determine use of a standby resource that is activated in
3 response to a resource requirement; and
4 program code in communication with the computer, the program code configured to
5 automatically determine a cause of the resource requirement and to determine a cost for
6 using the standby resource according to the cause.
- 1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the computer is selected from a group consisting
2 of at least one of a billing computer and a client computer.
- 1 20. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates billing a user
2 according to the determined cost.
- 1 21. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates correlating a code
2 indicative of the cause to a charge indicator used to determine the cost.
- 1 22. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates automatically
2 determining the cost.
- 1 23. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates retrieving a code
2 associated with the cause from an electronic log.
- 1 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the program code initiates correlating the code to
2 a billing rate.
- 1 25. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the program code initiates computing a bill
2 using the billing rate and a time measurement.

- 1 26. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates recording at least one
2 of a time the standby resource was activated and a subsequent time that the standby
3 resource was inactivated.
- 1 27. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates detecting a
2 performance problem.
- 1 28. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates retrieving encoded
2 adjustment data from a memory in communication with the computer.
- 1 29. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates recording a code
2 relating to the cause in an electronic log.
- 1 30. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the computer comprises part of a clustered
2 computer system.
- 1 31. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code initiates retrieving at least one of
2 a code and adjustment data from a remote memory.
- 1 32. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code is configured to use information
2 encoded within a program temporary fix to determine the cost for using the standby
3 resource.

1 33. A program product, comprising:
2 program code in communication with a computer configured to determine use of a
3 standby resource that is activated in response to a resource requirement, the program code
4 configured to determine a cause of the resource requirement and to determine a cost for
5 using the standby resource according to the cause; and
6 a signal bearing medium bearing the program code.

1 34. The program product of claim 33, wherein the signal bearing medium includes at
2 least one of a recordable medium and a transmission-type medium.